

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH MESSENGER

May 2021

In the name of Jesus Christ,
Saint Paul Lutheran Church
is committed to praising,
praying, and proclaiming the Word of God.



250 Trinity Road
Phone: 717-792-1650
York, PA 17408
www.saintpaul-trinity.org

The Parish Messenger is dedicated
To the Glory of Almighty God

In loving honor of our grandchildren
by John & Esther Jacobs

Rev. Sara Gausmann E-mail: pastorsally@saintpaultrinity.org

Cell phone - 717-487-1790

Rev. Paul Gausmann E-mail: pastorpaul@saintpaultrinity.org

Cell phone - 717-495-6582

Church Office: Phone: 717-792-1650

Website: www.saintpaultrinity.org

Office is open 8:00 am–2:30 pm Mon,Tues,Thurs, 8:00-12 noon Fri.

Administrative Assistant – Jean Strine parishadmin@saintpaultrinity.org

Financial Secretary - Carol Frey financialsecretary@saintpaultrinity.org

Music Director - Carol Moscony - musicdirector@saintpaultrinity.org

Mini-Sexton -Jack Hall – minisexton@saintpaultrinity.org

Interim CYC Director – Malinda Grube - cycdirector@saintpaultrinity.org

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Sue Dickensheets	(21)	792-0359
Vice Pres.	Joe Jones	(21)	798-1129
Secretary	Monica Hostetler	(22)	965-4079
Asst. Sec.	Brenda McCleary	(22)	854-7027
Treasurer	Rodney Smyser	(22)	792-2788
	Donna Huckenberry	(22)	792-0547
	Donna Rinehart	(23)	292-5258
	Jessica Markle	(21)	650-5608
	Marty Strine	(21)	324-4484
	Mike Barndt	(23)	432-9442
	David Grube	(23)	333-3490
	Roxanne Donnan	(23)	792-3103

Assist. Treasurers: Carl Smyser 717-793-8584 Lawrence Smyser

Cemetery Caretaker: Terry Emig 717-870-4096

Cemetery Board: Keith Bergey, Mike Eisenhart, Ira Keech, Dave Crowell



CYC is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year for both the 3 and 4-year-old

classes. Children need to be either 3 or 4 by the 1st of September. Registration can be done through

saintpaultrinity.org, the CYC webpage, cycpreschool.com, or by calling the church office and requesting a registration form.

The 3-year old's meet 3 days a week from 9:00-12:00 and the 4-year old's meet 5 days a week from 9:00-2:00. Tuition for the 3's is \$135/month and for the 4's it is \$270/month - both with a nonrefundable registration fee of \$20.00.

Pastor's Letter for May Newsletter 2021

“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.” John 15:4

Throughout the past year, we have been anxious to move beyond Covid 19 and this becomes more and more the case the more that the days pass by. We are all “done with it.” And that is understandable, it has been challenging and disruptive to our lives, to say the least. In our fast-paced lives, it has been hard to feel “stuck.” We have been accustomed to barreling forward from activity to activity. But even when we lived that former harried pattern, still there were certain things that we always wanted to remain stable in our lives.

Family, faith, team loyalties, our shopping and dining patterns among other things were kind of the anchors. And for good reason. Things can't always be changing; we need some stability even in an active lifestyle.

Jesus knows how important it is for us to have a strong foundation. Otherwise, whether we are on the move or at rest, we will get blown about by the uncertainties of life. In the Gospel of John passage above, he compares that stability to a vine. We need to be connected to and remain in that vine otherwise we won't be able to have the health and vitality that comes through life in him.

As things “get back to normal”, we need to remember not just to start adding activities back into our schedule and let ourselves become scattered. Instead, we need to continue to take the time to nurture our life in Christ, staying close in worship, prayer, and the study of God's word. That connection will bring us a rich life both in times of activity and time of rest, for it is only in Christ that we will bear fruit that is fitting of the kingdom of God.

See you at worship!

Pastor Sally

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR May Organ Fund



We are so thankful to have a beautiful sounding organ and an opportunity each week to hear that organ in use to the glory of God. Your donations to this fund enable upkeep and repairs to be done without having a major fund-raising drive. Thank you for your past and continued support. Please give as you are able to the organ fund this month in an envelope from the pew. Make checks payable to Saint Paul Lutheran Church to receive credit on your giving statement. Thank you for your support.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Articles for the June newsletter need to be in the church office by **May 14.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY 70 +

If your birthday is coming up and you do not want it recognized, please call the church office before the 15th of the month before your birthday.

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| May | 13 | William Zerby
4153 Robinhood Dr. York, PA 17408 |
| May | 15 | Carolyn Grove
201 N. Gotwalt St. York, PA 17404 |
| May | 17 | Dirinda Minnich
1985 Trolley Rd. York, PA 17408 |
| May | 19 | Deb Smyser
396 Old Hanover Rd. Spring Grove, PA 17362 |
| May | 26 | Donald W. Nace
1802 Folkemer Cr. Rm. 107 York, PA 17404 |
| May | 28 | Pearl Hughes
154 Kuhn Fording Rd. East Berlin, PA 17316 |
| May | 30 | Barbara Eisenhart
5072 Hickory View Dr. Spring Grove, PA 17362 |

TREASURER'S REPORT

Recap of Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2021

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Bene.</u>	<u>Bldg Maint</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Capital Fund</u>
2021 YTD					
Receipts	\$90,532	\$ 7,492	\$ 9,640	\$107,664	\$ 59,238
Disbursements	\$82,100	\$ 9,200	\$ 20,289	\$111,589	\$ -
2021 Change					
In Fund Bal.	\$ 8,432	\$(1,708)	\$(10,649)	\$(3,925)	\$ 59,238
Prior Year's Bal	\$27,022	\$ 3,188	\$ 902	\$31,112	\$421,875
Accum. Fund Balance	\$35,454	\$ 1,480	\$(9,747)	\$27,187	\$481,113
<u>Current Month's change</u>					
Fund Bal. last Month	\$38,585	\$ 2,164	\$(10,874)	\$29,875	\$ 477,112
This Month's change	\$ (3,131)	\$ (684)	\$ (1,127)	\$(2,688)	\$ 4,001

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2021 at 7pm

The Council meeting was held in the Narthex/Library area. All Council members were present along with Pastor Paul and Pastor Sally.

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Initiated by Pastor Sally and concluded by Pastor Paul

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Motion to accept the agenda by Mike Barndt and second by Dave Grube

MINUTES OF LAST COUNCIL MEETING: Motion to accept the minutes by Mike Barndt and second by Dave Grube

PASTORS' REPORT: Presented by Pastor Paul. Brief discussion on the Equality Act and what it means to the future of churches in the United States. Letters have been sent to our state Senators by Pastor Paul and Pastor Sally.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MINISTRY OF RESOURCES – Prayer offered by Mike Barndt

FINANCE

Monthly Income and Expense Report presented by Al Dickensheets with a few notes.

CYC Scholarship Funds to be moved to the CYC Compensation fund to cover the CYC Director salary.

Office Equip., Rep & Main. - Computer expenses were higher than anticipated because an additional computer needed to be purchased with the upgrade.

Building Maintenance – New lawn mower was purchased as approved at our previous council meeting

The Legacy Giving pamphlet outlines long-term giving opportunities to Saint Paul Lutheran Church. The Finance Committee requests that the Church Council members review the information about the Endowment Fund and give feedback. Our church has recently received three memorial contributions with some of the funds dedicated.

Next Monday 3/15/21, the Finance committee plans to attend a virtual presentation for on-line giving.

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Mutual Ministry update presented by Pastor Sally. The Administrative Assistant job description has been created for replacing of Kate's position as church secretary. The position has been announced in church and posted on the church sign. There are plans to add the opening to the church website and our Facebook account.

PROPERTY

Marty Strine shared plans for Church Clean-up on Saturday from 8-12.

MINISTRY OF GROWTH – Prayer offered by Donna Rinehart

FELLOWSHIP

Plans for fresh baked goods, yogurt, coffee and juice on Easter Morning outside shared by Monica Hostetler. Refer to minutes from 3/8/21 meeting. Next Fellowship meeting scheduled 5/10/21.

YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE

Monica Hostetler shared that Zoom Games have been successful. College Care Packages consisted of gift cards this year, mailed to the student's home. This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Easter morning at 9:30am. Tentative plans for a Bonfire on Friday, May 21st with food and fellowship. Next meeting scheduled April 12th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sue Dickensheets share meeting highlights, please refer to meeting minutes from 3/8/21

Sunday school to resume the Sunday after Easter. The children will meet in Fellowship Hall for a joint Sunday school.

Adult bible study to resume.

Palm Sunday – Stations of the Cross via Zoom, with families presenting different stations. Email sent to families today 3/9/21 for volunteers.

CYC has registrations coming in.

Plans for Confirmation class-30 lesson book to share with the students to work independently with Zoom or in class lesson every 6 weeks or so to touch base –meet and discuss.

MINISTRY OF SERVICE – Prayer offered by Mike Barndt

STEWARDSHIP

Joe Jones relayed no new updates, meeting is scheduled for next week.

OUTREACH

Please refer to submitted Outreach Minutes.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Donna Rhinehart relayed no new updates, meeting is scheduled for next week. Cards and crosses will be sent to our shut-ins for Easter.

MINISTRY OF PRAISE – Prayer offered by Roxanne

WORSHIP & PRAISE –

- Mike Barndt shared that fellow members are questioning the lack of singing during service. Multiple reasons for decrease in singing were shared by the Pastors: use of one bulletin for both services, lack of a secretary to prepare bulletins with additional music, decrease of in attendance early on in the pandemic. The Pastors will be meeting with Carol tomorrow 3/10/21 for ways to increase the music in the service.
- Roxanne shared that there are plans in 6-9 months to start the process of upgrading the sanctuary.
- There are plans for a Technology Committee to be created and to consult with a professional regarding long term technology needs for live streaming.

OLD BUSINESS:

GOD MOMENTS: Pastor Paul shared a story of losing and finding his wallet. Donna shared that the daily congregation devotional has been a God moment sharing in each other's faith.

Pastor Paul and Pastor Sally to be Ground up Grace podcast on March 29th

Bulletins: Regular mail and email, continuing with daily devotions

Protocol Reviewed: Council members shared their thoughts on whether masks should be required versus recommended. Department of health recommendations haven't changed at this time. Local hospital COVID-19 patient populations are declining. Council will meet again in 2 weeks on Wednesday, March 24th to review and re-evaluate protocol for Easter Sunday regarding mask usage.

NEW BUSINESS:

Easter Sunday: Outdoor Sunrise Service at 6:30 am, Breakfast outside at 7:30 am, Service at 8:30, Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 am, and Service at 10:30 am

Sheppard Staff update \$500 for upgrades and training manuals - Motion to approve Sheppard Staff expense made by Mike Barndt, and second by Joe Jones, unanimous vote made by council to approve expense.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF FACILITIES:

AA continued use - approved

Girl Scouts to resume meetings on Tuesday March 16th - approved

Food Pantry meeting to be held in Fellowship Hall if weather prevents and outdoor meeting -approved

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

Death: Lisa Myers (non-member) February 12

Funerals: Lisa Myers (non-member) February 19

OUR DAILY BREAD: Our dessert for May is carrot cake cupcakes with white frosting. We need 30 doz. by 9:00 am Friday, May 14th. If you can make some cupcakes, please sign the sheet in the narthex or contact Jean Strine. Thank you!



**Vacation Bible School:
Saint Paul Lutheran Church at 250 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408
For children ages: 3 – 12
Dates: July 18 - 22, 2021
from 6:30pm – 8:00pm.**

Please note change of address: Gordon and Jean Ross have moved to 1003C Priority Road, York, PA 17404.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Board of Regents, the faculty, and the students of the North American Lutheran Seminary, I want to thank you for your generous gift of \$973 in January 2021 in support of theological education and pastoral formation. These are difficult times for everyone involved in higher education and the seminary is no exception. Despite these difficulties, God is still at work providing for his Church and raising up the next generation of pastors and church leaders. Again, thank you for your ongoing support. It is truly appreciated. Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, Rev. Dr. Eric M. Riesen, President, NALS

Dear Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for the gift card and for thinking of me. I know times have been tough throughout this pandemic so it really means a lot that you would take the time to get a gift for me. Again, thank you, from the bottom of my heart. Cassidy Patchel

Dear Saint Paul Family, Thank you for the Sheetz gift card! I appreciate that you thought of me while I am at college! Blessings, Kara Hoke

Dear Saint Paul Church Family, Thank you for the Sheetz gift card. I am almost done school. I am in my last semester. I am thankful that you all thought of me. Sincerely, Nate Hoke

Thank you to Pastor Paul, Pastor Sally, church members and family for their prayers, phone calls and concerns during and after my shoulder replacement. It is with these prayers and thoughts that I am recovering. It will be a while before I am completely recovered, but I am doing well. Rodney Smyser

Hallelujah!! We have reached out once again and blessed each and every resident in both skilled care and assisted living at Spirit Trust with our Easter messages. **Thank you** to all those who bought/made Easter cards for the residents. You've touched MANY hearts and truly shared Jesus' love.

Dear Members of St. Paul's Church, Thank you so very much for remembering our residents and employees with your Easter cards and thank yous. The cards for our skilled care residents were especially appreciated as the visits scheduled for Easter had to be canceled. May God continue to bless your proclamation of the Good News of our Risen Lord! Peace, Chaplain Tricia McMackin

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who wrote Lenten devotionals. What a marvelous job you did! May God Bless you!

WORSHIP IN MAY

- May 2** **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40
Second Lesson: 1 John 4:1-11 (12-21)
Gospel: John 15:1-8
- May 9** **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
First Lesson: Acts 10:34-48
Second Lesson: 1 John 5:1-8
Gospel: John 15:9-17
- May 13** **Ascension of Our Lord**
First Lesson: Acts 1:1-11
Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel: Luke 24:44-53
- May 16** **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
First Lesson: Acts 1:12-26
Second Lesson: 1 John 5:9-15
Gospel: John 17:11b-19
- May 23** **Day of Pentecost**
First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14
Second Lesson: Acts 2:1-21
Gospel: John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
- May 30** **Holy Trinity Sunday**
First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8
Second Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-36
Gospel: John 3:1-17

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you."

James 1:5



We are meeting in person again and enjoying the return of 4 adult classes (Parents of Faith in the stage classroom, 4 x4 in the small conference room, Lutheran theology in the large conference room, Concordia Bible study in the Quilters room) and a joint class for elementary and pre-school children and families in the Fellowship Hall. A discussion style class is being held for junior and senior high age youth in the Parlor. The 4x4 class will be a lively look at 4 topics in 40 minutes all relating to our daily walk as Christians.

Pick a class and enrich your life of faith.

Women of the Word is planning to meet on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 1:00 pm. We will continue our Bible study "*Living for Jesus*". Brenda Shorts will lead our study "*Behold in Him*". We invite all ladies to join us. We will use the same protocols that are in place at that time for meetings (masks, social distancing). Hope to see you there!

Join us for a fun time around the Campfire!

Where: The Back yard!

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
250 Trinity Road
York, PA

When: May 21, 2021 at 6:30

What: Hot dogs, chips, watermelon and SMORES!

AND: Devotions, Singing, Yard Games, FUN

WHO: YOU!! And friends and family

RSVP: May 16, pastorsally@saintpaultrinity.org



Other upcoming events:
June 28 Harvest of Hope lunch project
July 5-9 Servants

SPONSORSHIPS

ALTAR FLOWERS (\$40/wk)

- May 2** Glenda Smith and Wayne Adams
May 9 Faye Nace
May 16 Dean Eisenhart / Cindy Renehan
May 23 Carl Smyser
May 30 Steven Bahn Family

BULLETIN (\$20/wk.)

- May 2** John & Esther Jacobs
May 9 Gary & Dot Mann
May 16 Marguerite Keller / Hax family
May 23 John & Esther Jacobs
May 30 Keith Bergey

BREAD & WINE (\$10/wk.)

- May 2** Donald Nace
May 9 Ira & Gloria Keech
May 16 Donnie & Diana Fake
May 23 Faye Nace
May 30 Keith Bergey

MAILING MINISTRY (\$10/wk.)

- May 2** Gary & Dot Mann
May 9 Charles Smyser
May 16 Richard & Mary Keller
May 23 Treva Albright
May 30 Keith Bergey

PARISH MESSENGER

John & Esther Jacobs

SANCTUARY LAMP

Ted & Norma Krebs

Social Ministry

We are continuing our Prayer Shawl and Scarf ministry. Please consider donating 4ply worsted yarn in bright colors. Completed scarves and shawls may be delivered to the church office. Thank you!

Shallow Well

We have received photos from the 13 Shallow Wells that were built from our donation of \$6,240 to the SW Project last year. The photos are in the library area.

Forward in Faith Sharing the Light of Christ!

Thank you all for your continued support not only of our congregational budget items but also for the great progress we are making in our capital fund appeal.

Soon we will be about 50% of the way through our initial pledge period (5 years) and we are about 75% of the way in contributions. The building is now completely paid for and we have \$385,000 (plus interest at 3.5%) to pay on the loan.

Thanks to those who have fulfilled and are continuing to fulfill their pledges. If you would like to support this fund you can jump in at any time, just indicate your contribution as applying to the capital appeal. We certainly are enjoying using our new facility and our visitors and guests are always complimentary.

Reflections on the Culture and Our Response from Pastor Paul

Considering the current state of confusion that has so come to grip our lives as Americans, I thought some short reflections on aspects of it and how our faith helps us address the culture might be helpful. First our election process and challenges to it.

A quote from the Small Catechism and Luther's explanation of the 8th commandment:

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way."

One of the more disturbing trends in our political and cultural life is the growing unaccountability of those who quite fragrantly lie. Lying has always been a contemptible strategy in trying to discredit one's opponents, but often this risked backfiring as people were held accountable for their lies and increasingly discredited as their lies were revealed. Now lying has become so common that people get away with quite extreme examples time and again. Even the wide-spread use of fact checking does not seem to make much difference here, sound bites are used by opponents to hit each other hard, knowing that most of the media is in some way biased, and will go along with propagating a lie, even if by remaining silent rather than reporting on it. Fake news is purposeful lying to advance one's agenda and is also commonplace.

Of course, the widespread use of lying is in the short and long term harmful to our civic life. Lies break relationships if you cannot trust someone, why engage in discussion with them, lack of credibility will make honest conversation almost impossible. Furthermore lying sets a horrible example for our youth, people who usually need to become gifted in communication no matter what course they pursue in life.

Of course, negative advertising does not help improve civil life either. How many times in the last election cycle did you witness one negative ad against a candidate's opponent then being followed immediately by the other candidate attacking the one who had just attacked them, who would want to support either one! How erosive of our civic life has decades of such advertising been?

Considering this decline in civil conversation between those who disagree with one another, Luther's explanation of the Eighth Commandment is particularly telling and pertinent. The Catechism advocates for a civil society where the neighbor (the other), is to be helped, encouraged, and seen in a positive light. We see the other not merely for who they appear to be, but also as a child of God and therefore we do not disparage that person for our own profit or advancement, but rather assist him or her and put their actions in the best possible construction. This is not to say one should not criticize wrongful actions but rather address disagreements in a civil manner and not attack the person. Sadly, we live in an increasingly unforgiving atmosphere where past insensitivities and mistakes are endlessly carped on and reputations are easily ruined, forgiveness is shunned.

In response to all this Christians need to be truth speakers, truth seekers, encouragers of what is kind, good and noble. One thing about our current life as a nation is that it can be emotionally exhausting, and exhaustion can over time make us cynical and apathetic. So be sure to be remember all the good as well, the good teachers, the dedicated law enforcement officers and emergency workers, be glad that we are not living in a totally nonfunctioning society of which there are many. After all Scripture does promote good government and we are to respect that, but still hold it accountable to the greater will of God.



Pentecost GERANIUM SALE

\$5.00 per plant. Order deadline is May 9th. Please place the order form in the offering plate; Contact person is Sue Dickensheets (717-792-0359). **Geraniums can be picked up after** both church services on Sunday, May 23rd. Note: There will be no extra geraniums available. **Please do not remove plants before services.**

- - - - -

Total enclosed _____ Check No. _____

In memory/honor of (circle one please)

By _____

ARE YOU READY FOR THIS...

COME ON, LET'S DO THIS...

TOGETHER...OUTSIDE IN THE FRESH AIR...

IT'S TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP, FUN AND BIBLE STUDY...

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!!!

Starting Sunday, June 6 through August 1 (but not July 4) from 6-8 pm, a **NEW** Bible study will begin outdoors at 4 different homes (all very near to our church)!

Connie Dunklebarger, Lori Smyser, Sue Dickensheets, and Joyce Hall have accepted God's call to lead this Bible study for 8 weeks at their homes (2 weeks each home), outside, in the open air! Awesome, right?

JESUS IN ME Bible Study is authored by Anne Graham Lotz (daughter of Billy Graham). We will learn and grow through this study to understand that the **Holy Spirit** is not a magic genie, a flame of fire, or a vague feeling. He is a Person who prays for us, guides us in our relationships and decision, comforts us in pain, and stays by our side at all times! How cool is that....to know that the **Holy Spirit** is our constant companion!

Now you know, **you don't want to miss** this opportunity to dive into this Bible study, get outside in the evening, fellowship with friends, have a few refreshments, and maybe even sing a song!! **Are you getting excited!!!**

Here's what you need:

- * A **JESUS IN ME** STUDY GUIDE (\$10)
- * Your Bible
- * A pencil or pen
- * a lawn chair

So, here's your chance...get on board, sign up now and get ready for June 6th!!!

OUTDOORS, FELLOWSHIP, BIBLE STUDY, REFRESHMENTS, SONGS...OH PRAISE THE LORD, IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS!!!!

CALL Connie Dunklebarger AT 717-225-1310 OR 717-487-0492 to say **YES, COUNT ME IN!!**

THE PARISH MESSENGER

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CURCH

250 Trinity Road

York, PA 17408

www.saintpaul-trinity.org

Worship Services: 8:15 am & 10:30 am

Education Hour: 9:30 am

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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May

2021